



Washington School for the Deaf

April 17, 2009

Middle School News

Social Studies

This week students have been taking the WASL. When they are not taking the WASL they are involved in a project to learn and share their cultural heritage. They spent the week researching their culture of origin as well as finding family information, family photographs, and learning family stories. The 7/8 grade will continue their CBA next week.

Writing

This week the 5th and 6th grade watched "A Cry in the Wild," a movie based on the book Hatchet by Gary Paulsen which the 5th and 6th A class recently finished reading. The 7th and 8th grade students created flyers for the middle school fingerspelling bee using Microsoft Publisher and Microsoft Power Point. Nicole Morgan's flyer was officially chosen to be sent to parents and posted around the school. Good job, Nicole!

We are preparing for the middle school fingerspelling bee! This week, the 5th grade students watched "Spellbound," a documentary about the National Spelling Bee. As we watched this movie, we noted the various strategies students used to memorize and study words. After the movie we tried out some of these strategies. In the photo you see here Cesar is using Scrabble letters to practice. Study lists were distributed to all students and they are encouraged to study as much as possible before May 29th.



Reading

We have a student teacher interning with us for our 4th quarter. Her name is Autumn Lutge. She comes from the Education Studies graduate program at University of California, San Diego. Autumn is originally from San Francisco, California. She will be working with April (Reading) and Piper (Social Studies & Science). We are very excited to have Autumn with us!

Upcoming Events:

MS Finger Spelling Bee

May 29

7/8 Grade Biztown

May 6

8th Grade Commencement

June 5

Tips for Parents

Here are some ideas to help set up your child with his or her study skills.

1. Provide your child a well-lit area to study that is free from distractions.
2. Set family routines which include blocks of study time.
3. Help your child gather resources they need for reports or projects. Be available to take your child to the library.
4. Try to provide standard resources in the home (dictionary, encyclopedia, computer, thesaurus).
5. DO help your child with homework. This means straightening out confusion, getting an assignment clear, discussing a concept or skill. This kind of help extends and supports the teaching done in the classroom.

(information provided by I. Forte & M. Frank; Incentive Publications)

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Questions? Comments? Concerns?

Write us a note and send it back with your child.
